

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: Oct. xx, 2007

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‘Reality Check’ Links Education, Job to future Life Style Purchasing Choices

The Idaho Career Information System’s newest feature shows students and job seekers just what kinds of education and jobs they will need to support the kind of life styles they desire.

Reality Check, an interactive feature available through the system’s Internet Web site, lets users match consumer choices, salary targets and occupations and details the kind of education needed to meet those expectations.

It provides estimates of the monthly cost for housing, food, health care, utilities, transportation, clothing, entertainment and other expenses like travel in Boise, Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Coeur d’Alene and Lewiston.

A user selects any budget level from the very basic to the luxurious, and based on the total cost, Reality Check lists occupations- and the education they require - that could support the life style chosen.

Users can plug in a salary target and find out what occupations will pay that much depending on how much postsecondary education the job seekers have.

“With this new service, students and every other career decision-maker get a better idea of their earning power and what it will buy,” Career Information Systems Administrator Christie Stoll said. “This provides the kind of information everyone needs to make smart decisions about the kind of life they want and what they need in terms of education and career to achieve it.”

Reality Check is part of the basic Career Information System package that is available at all Idaho Department of Labor local offices, most senior and junior high schools in the state, and on personal computers for those who have set up an account.

The Career Information System at www.idahocis.org offers a broad array of information on jobs, career requirements, schools and other sources for the education or training needed to qualify for specific jobs and resources like Reality Check to help people make those major decisions.

Over 119,000 people used the resources offered by the Idaho Career Information System last year.

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